**Atlantic Coast High School Kevin Sacerdote American History**

**Contact Info:** [**sacerdotek@duvalschools.org**](mailto:sacerdotek@duvalschools.org)

**Class Wiki:** [**http://ushistorysas.wikispaces.com/home**](http://ushistorysas.wikispaces.com/home)

**Building/Room: 626**

**Course Text:** Appleby, J., Brinkley, A., Broussard, A.S., McPherson, J.M., Ritchie, D.A., & McTighe, J. (2013). *United States History & Geography: Modern times* (Florida Ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.

* *Bring your text and notebook to class every day.*

**Course Objectives**

The purpose of this course is to create an in-depth understanding of some of the major events, people and civilizations that have helped to shape the United States. Students will be introduced to social, cultural and political developments and their effects on our society today. We will focus on events from the Civil War until the modern day War on Terror. Students will be encouraged to work with one another throughout the class and year. US History is a required course for graduation!

**Supplies**

Mandatory

* One Spiral Note Book per semester
* Black or Blue pens, #2 Pencils (for ‘scan-tron’ tests only)

**Optional Items**

1. High quality eraser (Hi-Polymer)
2. Small package or ream of Printer Paper
3. One box of tissues and/or 1 container of Clorox wipes

**End of Course Exam**

The End of Course (EOC) exam for US History is a required test for all students who wish to receive credit for the course. In order to pass the course you will need to pass the End of Course exam. The exam is calculated as 30% of your overall grade. US History teachers are not allowed to see the exam prior to testing and thus will be required to utilize the text as best they can to predict important topics and events. EOC testing begins as early as April.

**Student Responsibilities**

1. Students are responsible for completing and turning in all class assignments upon request.
2. It is the STUDENT’S responsibility to obtain and make-up class assignments due to an absence. Time allowed for completion and turning in missed assignment will depend on the time allowed for the general class or the number of days absent.
3. Make-up test will only be held before and after school. Students will have up to one week of the original test day in order to complete the missed exam.
4. Homework is assigned on a regular basis. If class time is not sufficient to complete class assignments, those class assignments are to be completed at home.
5. *A student who has more than four absences, or has not completed all mandatory assignments cannot partake in extra opportunity work.*

**Classroom Expectations**

1. Students must make up any missed work prior to taking a unit test. Once a *Unit of Study* has been assessed, no missing work from that unit will be accepted.
2. Students will be in their assigned seat, with phones and headphones away, prepared to work by the ringing of the last bell. Cell phone during class use without prior permission will not be tolerated.
3. Students will bring their TEXTBOOK to class EVERYDAY unless otherwise notified.
4. Students will not distract or disturb the orderly educational atmosphere of the classroom.
5. Students will be responsible for their own classroom materials (pens, paper, pencils, erasers, etc.)
6. Students will not bring food or drink into the classroom to eat.
7. Student’s use of the hall pass is reserved for emergencies at the teacher’s discretion.

**Student Assistance**

1. Students are encouraged to seek assistance. If you are struggling with something PLEASE let me know. I cannot help you if you pretend you understand. Tutoring sessions will be available after school. Please make arrangements with me if you need assistance.
2. If Applicable: Selected students are always allowed to utilize whatever IEP / Language acquisition materials assigned to them. I will not deny you your right to any of your accommodations. Please feel free to speak with me individually pertaining to your individual situation.

**Teacher Conferences/Contact**

1. If you and/or your parent(s)/guardian(s) wish to have a student/parent conference, parent(s)/guardian(s) can call our guidance department for an in school or telephone conference (904) 538-5120. Parents are encouraged to e-mail me (sacerdotek@duvalschools.org). I will respond to most e-mails within 24 hours.

**Grades**

Grades will be calculated on a point’s basis. The following are areas where the points will come from.

* Test/Quizzes (most of your points come from tests)
* Class & Homework Assignments (Including written reports, projects, etc.)
* Projects & Notebooks

If a student is absent they are expected to turn in assignments within 2 days of their return – otherwise it is considered LATE. Late work will be accepted, but points will be deducted from the grade. Quizzes or tests missed due to an absence must be made up before or after school. The deadline for quiz/test make up is one week from the return date of the student.

***Parent(s)/guardian(s) are STRONGLY encouraged to stay current with student on-line grades (FOCUS).*** *If one needs further information on how to do this please call the school and request to speak with our guidance department* [*http://dcps.duvalschools.org/achs*](http://dcps.duvalschools.org/achs)

Each student is required to maintain a notebook for this course. This notebook will be used in class every day. The notebook should be organized by unit and will include all notes, writing assignments and handouts for the unit. Students will find that this notebook will be a valuable study tool as the exam approaches.

Overall grades will be based on mastery of standards illustrated through completion of how many points the student earns for quizzes, seminars, notebook checks, tests, assignments, projects, classwork, and class participation. The grading scale is as follows:

**90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, and 59 or below = F**

**Parental Permission Form:**

Throughout the year documentary films and other media such as photos, interviews and on rare occasions movies (or clips from movies) will be utilized to enhance student understanding on some key areas of study. In an attempt to address the issues frankly, sometimes some of the material being shown may contain instances of adult themes and language (Schindler’s List -> The Holocaust, Vietnam War, etc.) Please note, that none of the examples will be gratuitous and all will pertain to the themes of the course. Please sign below if you permit your child to participate in activities that include the aforementioned subjects.

**Name of Student**

**Printed Parent/Guardian Name**

**Parent Name/Guardian E-mail Address**

**Phone Number:**

**Comments:**